

01006

1989/01/30

SECRET
PRC Arms Sales to Libya

E0246

R

On a number of occasions during the last Administration, the United States expressed its concern to senior PRC leaders over the dangers posed by missile proliferation. The Chinese have responded that with the exception of the sale to Saudi Arabia, China has not sold ballistic missiles to any other country. Chinese leaders have said that China will take a prudent and responsible attitude regarding weapons sales, including the sale of missiles. They have stated that China's arms sales are evaluated in terms of whether they strengthen legitimate self-defense capabilities and are conducive to the peace, stability, and security of the region concerned. We believe that the Chinese fully understand our concerns with regard to sale of ballistic missiles and that the constructive dialogue with them thus far provides a basis for optimism with regard to future PRC sale of missiles.

Drafted:EAP/CM:JRDqonovan

1400M 7-9141 1/30/89.

Clearance:EAP:RWilliams.

EAP/CM:JBader

P:LFarrar

NEA/RA:SAoki

PM/STA:DYap